

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to insert the subject matter of original claims 2-5 and 6-9 into the specification in place of the recitation of these claim numbers.

The claims have been amended to conform to US practice and to provide clear antecedent basis for recited elements of the claim. All of the claims have been amended to recite that the metal that is applied to the solder layer (2) and optionally the support (3) is tin. Antecedent basis for this amendment is located at page 4, line 7. Claims 4 and 5 have therefore been deleted.

Additionally, method claim 6 has been amended to recite that the layer of tin is applied to the tungsten overlay in a manner so that the layer of tin does not physically cover the tungsten to be protected. Antecedent basis for this amendment is located at page 4, lines 16-17. The concept of initial coverage of the tungsten overlay by tin, with subsequent removal from the tungsten overlay as originally expressed in claim 6 is now recited in amended claim 9. The re-exposure of the tungsten overlay by a sliding grinding step as originally presented in claim 9 is now recited in claim 10.

New claims 11 and 12 relate to a horn or an electromechanical switching device, respectively, comprising the contact piece of claim 1. New claims 13 and 14 relate to a method of manufacture of a horn or an electromechanical switching device, respectively, comprising the contact piece of claim 1. These claims find antecedent basis particularly at page 1, lines 10 and 14.

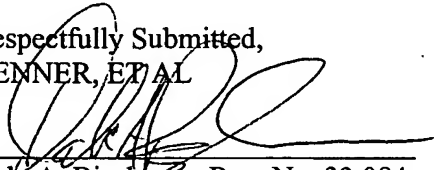
It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is introduced by these amendments.

CONCLUSION

Early favorable Examination is now earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned, at the Examiner's convenience, should the Examiner have any questions regarding this communication or the present patent application.

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Respectfully Submitted,
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